

Monday, December 18, 2017

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8051–S8072

Measures Introduced: Four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2242–2245. **Page S8070**

Measures Reported:

S. 2155, to promote economic growth, provide tailored regulatory relief, and enhance consumer protections, with amendments. **Page S8070**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the National Security Strategy of the United States of America; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (PM–22) **Page S8069**

Newstead Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 12:00 noon, on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Jennifer Gillian Newstead, of New York, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State, under the order of Thursday, December 14, 2017. **Pages S8071–72**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 62 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. EX. 318), J. Paul Compton, Jr., of Alabama, to be General Coun-

sel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. **Pages S8054–64, S8072**

By 74 yeas to 23 nays (Vote No. EX. 319), Owen West, of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense. **Pages S8054–64, S8072**

Messages from the House: **Page S8070**

Measures Referred: **Page S8070**

Executive Communications: **Page S8070**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S8070–71**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S8071**

Additional Statements: **Page S8069**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—319) **Page S8064**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 7:33 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 19, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S8071–72.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 14 public bills, H.R. 4666–4679 and 1 resolution, H. Con. Res. 97 were introduced. **Pages H10179–80**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H10180–81**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3813, to designate a human trafficking prevention coordinator and to expand the scope of activities authorized under the Federal Motor Carrier

Safety Administration's outreach and education program to include human trafficking prevention activities, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–467);

H.R. 3814, to disqualify from operating a commercial motor vehicle for life an individual who uses a commercial motor vehicle in committing a felony involving human trafficking (H. Rept. 115–468);

H.R. 2465, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make permanent the removal of the rental cap for durable medical equipment under the

Medicare program with respect to speech generating devices (H. Rept. 115–469, Part 1);

H.R. 1350, to modify the boundary of Voyageurs National Park in the State of Minnesota, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–470);

H.R. 4375, to provide for a study on broadening participation in certain National Science Foundation research and education programs, to collect data on Federal research grants to science agencies, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–471);

H.R. 4254, to amend the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 to strengthen the aerospace workforce pipeline by the promotion of Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program and National Aeronautics and Space Administration internship and fellowship opportunities to women, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–472);

H.R. 4323, to promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–473); and

H. Res. 667, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to titles II and V of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3312) to amend the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act to specify when bank holding companies may be subject to certain enhanced supervision, and for other purposes; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 115–474).

Page H10179

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Duncan (TN) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H10147

Recess: The House recessed at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Page H10148

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Dan C. Cummins, Peoples Church, Jacksonville, Texas.

Page H10148

Recess: The House recessed at 2:03 p.m. and reconvened at 4:30 p.m.

Page H10148

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage Family Caregivers Act of 2017: H.R. 3759, amended, to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a Family Caregiving Strategy; **Pages H10148–52**

Expressing support for the use of public-private partnerships to bring computer science education to more K–12 classrooms: H. Con. Res. 95, amended, expressing support for the use of public-private part-

nerships to bring computer science education to more K–12 classrooms; **Pages H10152–54**

Keep America's Refuges Operational Act: H.R. 3979, amended, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer services, community partnership, and refuge education programs of the National Wildlife Refuge System, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 371 yeas to 14 nays, Roll No. 687; **Pages H10154–55, H10166**

United States Fire Administration, AFG, and SAFER Program Reauthorization Act of 2017: H.R. 4661, to reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, the Assistance to Firefighters Grants program, the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants program, and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant program; and **Pages H10155–58**

STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act: H.R. 4375, amended, to provide for a study on broadening participation in certain National Science Foundation research and education programs, and to collect data on Federal research grants to science agencies, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 376 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 686;

Pages H10158–60, H10165–66

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "Provide for a report on broadening participation in certain National Science Foundation research and education programs, to collect data on Federal research grants to science agencies, and for other purposes."

Page H10166

Recess: The House recessed at 6:16 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H10164

Motion to Fix Next Convening Time: Agreed to the Holding motion that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 9 a.m. for morning-hour debate, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 216 yeas to 169 nays, Roll No. 685.

Pages H10164–65

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Women in Aerospace Education Act: H.R. 4254, amended, to amend the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 to strengthen the aerospace workforce pipeline by the promotion of Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program and National Aeronautics and Space Administration internship and fellowship opportunities to women; **Pages H10160–61**

United States and Israel Space Cooperation Act: H.R. 1159, amended, to provide for continuing cooperation between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Israel Space Agency; and **Pages H10161–62**

Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act: H.R. 4323, amended, to promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research. **Pages H10162–64**

Recess: The House recessed at 9:15 p.m. and reconvened at 11:04 p.m. **Page H10178**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted to Congress the National Security Strategy of the United States—referred to the Committee on Armed Services. **Page H10164**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H10164–65, H10165–66, H10166. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Committee Meetings

SYSTEMIC RISK DESIGNATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2017

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 3312, the “Systemic Risk Designation Improvement Act of 2017”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a rule providing for the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 1. The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. The rule provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. The rule provides that the previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervention of any motion except one hour of debate and one motion to recommit if applicable. The rule provides that clause 5(b) of rule XXI shall not apply to the conference report. The rule provides that debate on the conference report is divided pursuant to clause 8(d) of rule XXII. In section 2, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3312 under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–49, modified by the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. In section 3, the rule waives clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against any resolution reported for the remainder of the first session of the 115th Congress. In section 4, the rule provides that it shall be in order at any time through remainder of the first session of the 115th Congress, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules and that the Speaker or his designee shall consult

with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. Testimony was heard from Chairman Hensarling, Chairman Brady of Texas, and Representatives Roskam and Neal.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Scott Garrett, of New Jersey, to be President, Kimberly A. Reed, of West Virginia, to be First Vice President, Mark L. Greenblatt, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, and Spencer Bachus III, of Alabama, Judith Delzoppo Pryor, of Ohio, and Claudia Slacik, of New York, each to be a Member of the Board of Directors, all of the Export-Import Bank, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter Hendrick Vrooman, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda, and Joel Danies, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, both of the Department of State, 2 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Rules and Administration: to hold hearings to examine S. Res. 355, improving procedures for the consideration of nominations in the Senate; to be immediately followed by a business meeting to consider S. Res. 355, improving procedures for the consideration of nominations in the Senate, 2:30 p.m., SR–301.

House

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 630, requiring each Member, officer, and employee of the House of Representatives to complete a program of training in workplace rights and responsibilities each session of each Congress, 12:15 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on Senate Amendment to H.R. 1370, the “Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign Authorization Act of 2017 [Further Continuing Resolution]”, 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4242, the “VA Care in the Community Act”, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 19 through December 22,
2017

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Jennifer Gillian Newstead, of New York, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at approximately 12:10 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: December 19, business meeting to consider the nominations of Scott Garrett, of New Jersey, to be President, Kimberly A. Reed, of West Virginia, to be First Vice President, Mark L. Greenblatt, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, and Spencer Bachus III, of Alabama, Judith Delzoppo Pryor, of Ohio, and Claudia Slacik, of New York, each to be a Member of the Board of Directors, all of the Export-Import Bank, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: December 20, Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine freight movement, 10:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: December 19, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter Hendrick Vrooman, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda, and Joel Danies, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, both of the Department of State, 2 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Rules and Administration: December 19, to hold hearings to examine S. Res. 355, improving procedures for the consideration of nominations in the Senate; to be immediately followed by a business meeting to consider S. Res. 355, improving procedures for the consideration of nominations in the Senate, 2:30 p.m., SR-301.

House Committees

Committee on Education and the Workforce, December 20, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Education", 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, December 19

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Tuesday, December 19

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 12 noon), Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Jennifer Gillian Newstead, of New York, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at approximately 12:10 p.m.

(Following disposition of the nomination of Jennifer Gillian Newstead, Senate will recess until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 1—GOP Tax Bill (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of H.R. 3312—Systemic Risk Designation Improvement Act of 2017 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Cheney, Liz, Wyo., E1717, E1717, E1718, E1718, E1718, E1718, E1719, E1719, E1720, E1720, E1720
Collins, Doug, Ga., E1718
Davis, Rodney, Ill., E1719
Engel, Eliot L., N.Y., E1719

Evans, Dwig, Pa., E1717
Hensarling, Jeb, Tex., E1718
Khanna, Ro, Calif., E1719
Matsui, Doris O., Calif., E1717, E1720
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E1717, E1718, E1720
Price, David E., N.C., E1721

Rogers, Mike, Ala., E1721
Sewell, Terri A., Ala., E1722
Smith, Lamar, Tex., E1717
Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E1720



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